Claims pending

- At time of the Action: Claims 28 and 40.
- After this Response: Claims 28, 40, 49-50.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims:

- Previously: Claims 1-27, 29-39, and 41-48.
- In this Response: None.

Amended claims: Claims 28 and 40.

New claims: Claim 49-50.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 27. (Cancelled).

28.   (Currently amended) A system for managing a directory of published <u>printable</u> objects and removing nonfunctional objects, the directory maintained on a computer network, and a directory service for providing access to resources represented by corresponding objects in the directory of published <u>printable</u> objects, the system comprising:

a pruning module including a module for testing if a specified object, from the directory of published <u>printable</u> objects, is accessible, a module for

determining if the specified object is deleteable, wherein a list of orphaned objects is tested in accordance with a specifiable policy, ~~wherein the specifiable policy~~ that monitors the specified object ~~with a low priority thread~~ to determine if the specified object is orphaned, and a module for testing if software hosting the specified object is capable of republishing the specified object;

a domain controller hosting the pruning module and the directory of published objects <u>and assigning thread priority for the pruning module such that the pruning module operates during times of relatively low utilization of the computer network</u>; and

a thread for executing the pruning module.

29. – 39. (Cancelled).

40. (Currently amended) A method for managing a directory of published <u>printable</u> objects and removing nonfunctional objects, the directory maintained on a computer network, and providing a directory service for accessing resources represented by corresponding objects in the directory of published <u>printable</u> objects, the method comprising:

pruning the published <u>printable</u> objects by testing if a specified object, from the directory of published objects, is accessible, determining if the

specified object is deleteable, wherein a list of orphaned objects is tested in accordance with a specifiable policy, ~~wherein the specifiable policy monitors the specified object with a low priority thread to determine if the specified object is orphaned,~~ and testing if software hosting the specified object is capable of republishing the specified object;

~~hosting, via a domain controller, the pruning of the published objects and the directory of published objects; and~~

~~executing the pruning of the published objects by use of a thread~~ assigning said pruning a thread priority sufficient to allow said pruning to be accomplished during times of relatively low computer network utilization.

41. – 48. (Cancelled).

49.   (New) A computer-implemented method comprising:

obtaining a list of published printable objects of a computer network;

pruning objects from the list based upon testing with a specified policy whether an individual object is orphaned, determining if the individual object is deleteable, and ascertaining if software hosting the individual object is capable of republishing the individual object; and,

assigning said testing, said determining, and said ascertaining thread priorities sufficient to allow said pruning to be accomplished during times of relatively low computer network utilization.

50.   (New) The computer-implemented method of claim 49, wherein said assigning enables said testing to be completed before commencing said determining, and said determining to be completed before commencing said ascertaining.